In the claims: The claims are as follows.

1. (Previously presented) A method for a communication device, comprising:

storing in a contacts bearer data store association information for a contact that is indicated in the contacts bearer data store by an identifier, the association information including a list of at least two possible bearers for providing a connection to the contact, wherein each of the at least two possible bearers for the contact is stored so as to be associated with the contact via the identifier for the contact; and

selecting from the contacts bearer data store one of the at least two possible bearers for the contact based on the identifier and either based on a predetermined selection strategy or based on trying each of the at least two possible bearers in turn until the connection is made;

wherein the selecting of the bearer for the contact is performed automatically without requiring an input by a user of the device.

2. Canceled.

3. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 1, further comprising:

referring to an owner bearer data store to obtain a list of bearers available for use in establishing a connection to another communication device; and

determining a list of both possible and available bearers for the contact by eliminating from the list of possible bearers for the contact any bearer that does not occur on the list of available bearers.

4. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein a public source of contact information is used in obtaining the association information.

5. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein in obtaining the association information, a second device communicates to the device the association information needed by the device for automatically selecting a bearer for communication with the contact.

6. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the predetermined selection strategy indicates selecting a bearer based on at least one of the following selection criteria: acceptable price; acceptable bandwidth; acceptable latency; as ordered in a list hosted in the device; fastest to connect when the device attempts to make different connections in parallel via different possible bearers; wherein the acceptable price, acceptable bandwidth, and acceptable latency are as compared to predetermined thresholds for price, bandwidth and latency.

7. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 6, wherein the predetermined threshold for latency indicates a minimum quality of service requirement for the connection.

8. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 7, further comprising periodically comparing the quality of service to the minimum quality of service requirement during communication via the connection and initiating a bearer change if the quality of service is no longer sufficient.

9. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 1, wherein the association information includes a bearer identifier for each of at least two different bearers both associated with a same second device.

10. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 9, wherein the association information for each bearer includes an indication of the contact, a bearer identifier, and an address for use with the bearer.

11. Canceled.

12. Canceled.

13. (Previously presented) A computer program product comprising: a computer readable storage structure embodying computer program code thereon for execution by a computer processor, said computer program code comprising instructions for performing a method as in claim 1.

14. Canceled.

15. (Previously presented) An apparatus for use in a communication device, comprising:

a contacts bearer data store, for storing association information for a contact that is indicated in the contacts bearer data store by an identifier, the association information including a list of at least two possible bearers for providing a connection to the contact, wherein each of the at least two possible bearers for the contact is stored so as to be associated with the contact via the identifier for the contact; and

means for selecting from the contacts bearer data store one of the at least two possible bearers for the contact based on the identifier and either based on a predetermined selection strategy or based on trying each of the at least two possible bearers in turn until the connection is made;

wherein the apparatus is configured to select the bearer for the contact automatically without requiring an input by a user of the communication device.

16. Canceled.

17. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 15, wherein the predetermined selection strategy indicates selecting a bearer based on at least one of the following selection criteria: acceptable price; acceptable bandwidth; acceptable latency; as ordered in a list hosted in the communication device; and fastest to connect; and wherein the acceptable price, acceptable bandwidth, and acceptable latency are as compared to predetermined thresholds for price, bandwidth and latency.

18. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 15, wherein the association information for each bearer includes an indication of the contact, a bearer identifier, and an address for use with the bearer.

19. Canceled.

20. Canceled.

21. Canceled.

22. Canceled.

23. Canceled.

24. Canceled.

25. (Previously presented) An apparatus for use in a communication device, comprising:

a contacts bearer data store, for storing association information for a contact that is indicated in the contacts bearer data store by an identifier, the association information including a list of at least two possible bearers for providing a connection

to the contact, wherein each of the at least two possible bearers for the contact is stored so as to be associated with the contact via the identifier for the contact; and

a network/ bearer selector, for selecting from the contacts bearer data store one of the at least two possible bearers for the contact based on the identifier and either based on a predetermined selection strategy or based on trying each of the at least two possible bearers in turn until the connection is made;

wherein the apparatus is configured to select the bearer for the contact automatically without requiring an input by a user of the communication device.

26. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 25, wherein the contacts bearer data store is configured to include for each of the possible bearers for the contact an indication of the contact, a bearer identifier, and an address for use with the bearer.

27. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:

storing in a contacts bearer data store a plurality of bearers forming a list of possible bearers for a contact that is indicated by an identifier in the contacts bearer data store, wherein the bearers are for use in communicating with the contact and are stored in the contacts bearer data store so as to be associated with the contact via the identifier; and

selecting a bearer for the contact from the list of possible bearers for the contact based on the identifier, and attempting to establish communication with the contact using the selected bearer.

28. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 27, further comprising referring to an owner bearer data store to obtain a list of available bearers for establishing a connection with a

communication device, and determining a list of both possible and available bearers for communicating with the contact by eliminating from the list of possible bearers for the contact any bearer that does not occur on the list of available bearers.

29. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 27, wherein the selecting of a bearer for the contact is based also on a predetermined selection strategy or is based also on trying each of the possible bearers in turn until a connection is made for communication with the contact.

30. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 29, wherein the predetermined strategy indicates selecting a bearer for the contact based on at least one of the following selection criteria: acceptable price; acceptable bandwidth; acceptable latency; as ordered in a list; and fastest to connect; and wherein the acceptable price, acceptable bandwidth, and acceptable latency are as compared to predetermined thresholds for price, bandwidth and latency.

31. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 27, wherein for each bearer for the contact the contacts bearer data store includes an indication of the contact, a bearer identifier, and an address for use with the bearer.

32. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:

data store means for storing a plurality of bearers forming a list of bearers for a contact that is indicated by an identifier in the data store means, wherein the bearers are for use in communicating with the contact and the data store means is configured to store the bearers for the contact so as to be associated with the contact via the identifier; and

-7-

means for selecting a bearer for the contact from the list of possible bearers for the contact based on the identifier, and for attempting to establish communication with the contact using the selected bearer.

33. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 32, wherein the contacts bearer data store is configured to include for each bearer for the contact an indication of the contact, a bearer identifier, and an address for use with the bearer.

34. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:

a contacts bearer data store, for storing a plurality of bearers forming a list of possible bearers for a contact that is indicated by an identifier in the contacts bearer data store, wherein the bearers are for use in communicating with the contact and the contacts bearer data store is configured to store the bearers for the contact so as to be associated with the contact via the identifier; and

a network/ bearer selector, for selecting a bearer for the contact from the list of possible bearers for the contact based on the identifier, and for attempting to establish communication with the contact using the selected bearer.

35. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 34, wherein the network/ bearer selector is configured to refer to an owner bearer data store to obtain a list of bearers available for communication, and to determine a list of both possible and available bearers for the contact by eliminating from the list of possible bearers for the contact any bearer that does not occur on the list of available bearers.

36. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 34, wherein the network/ bearer selector is configured to select the bearer

for the contact based also on a predetermined selection strategy or based also on trying each of the bearers in turn until the connection is made for communication with the contact.

37. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 36, wherein the predetermined strategy indicates selecting a bearer based on at least one of the following selection criteria: acceptable price; acceptable bandwidth; acceptable latency; as ordered in a list; and fastest to connect; and wherein the acceptable price, acceptable bandwidth, and acceptable latency are as compared to predetermined thresholds for price, bandwidth and latency.

38. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 34, wherein for each bearer for the contact the contacts bearer data store is configured to include an indication of the contact, a bearer identifier, and an address for use with the bearer.

39. (Previously presented) A method for use by a wireless communication device, comprising:

receiving an input from a user of the wireless communication device indicating a command for contacting a second user;

obtaining association information relating to contacting the second user, wherein the association information includes at least two possible bearers for establishing a wireless communication connection with any of one or more devices of the second user, and the association information is related to contacting the second user via an identifier of the second user included with or indicated in the association information;

selecting one of the at least two possible bearers for contacting the second user based on the identifier; and

attempting to establish communication with the second user by initializing a wireless communication connection via the selected bearer.

40. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 39, wherein the selecting of a bearer is based on a predetermined selection strategy.

41. (Previously presented) A method as in claim 39, wherein the selecting of a bearer is based on trying each of the possible bearers in turn until a connection is made for communication with the second user.

42. (Previously presented) An apparatus, for use by a wireless communication device, comprising:

means for receiving an input from a user of the wireless communication device indicating a command for contacting a second user;

means for obtaining association information relating to contacting the second user, wherein the association information includes at least two possible bearers for establishing a wireless communication connection with any of one or more devices of the second user, and the association information is related to contacting the second user via an identifier of the second user included with or indicated in the association information;

means for selecting one of the at least two possible bearers for contacting the second user based on the identifier; and

means for attempting to establish communication with the second user by initializing a wireless communication connection via the selected bearer.

43. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 42, wherein the selecting of a bearer is based on a predetermined selection strategy or is based on trying each of the possible bearers in turn until a connection is made for communication with the second user.

44.   (Previously presented)   An apparatus, for use by a wireless communication device, comprising a processor configured to:

receive an input from a user of the wireless communication device indicating a command for contacting a second user;

obtain association information relating to contacting the second user, wherein the association information includes at least two possible bearers for establishing a wireless communication connection with any of one or more devices of the second user, and the association information is related to contacting the second user via an identifier of the second user included with or indicated in the association information;

select one of the at least two possible bearers for contacting the second user based on the identifier; and

attempt to establish communication with the second user by initializing a wireless communication connection via the selected bearer.

45.   (Previously presented)   An apparatus as in claim 44, wherein the selecting of a bearer is based on a predetermined selection strategy.

46.   (Previously presented)   An apparatus as in claim 44, wherein the selecting of a bearer is based on trying each of the at least two possible bearers in turn until a connection is made for communication with the second user.

47.   (Previously presented)   An apparatus as in claim 44, wherein for each bearer the association information includes an indication of the second user via an identifier for the second user, a bearer identifier, and an address for use with the bearer.

48.   (Previously presented)   A method as in claim 1, further comprising receiving an input from a user of the communication

device indicating a command to provide a connection for communication with the contact.

49. (Previously presented) An apparatus as in claim 15, further comprising means for receiving an input from a user of the communication device indicating a command to provide a connection for communication with the contact.